

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

2 May 1943

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff, C-2, War Department,
Washington, D. C.

SUBJ: Overseas Experimental Radio Base

1. The Communications Division of Strategic Services Unit, in close liaison with technical services of the Office of the Chief Signal Officer, War Department, is conducting experiments with small, low-power radio equipment particularly adapted for clandestine intelligence operations to obtain presently unavailable information as to the ultimate capabilities of such equipment. Satisfactory completion of such experiments necessitates extensive trans-oceanic tests and it is, therefore, proposed to establish a Strategic Services Unit experimental base station in Italy, preferably near Rome, under administrative control of Chief Signal Officer, MACUSA.

2. Due to the nature of the equipment and transmissions involved it is considered imperative that such a station and its personnel, consisting initially of approximately 12 persons, be completely divorced from any outward connection with this agency and appear to all intents and purposes as a War Department project. It would, of course, be necessary for the Theater Commander, together with his Assistant Chief of Staff, C-2, and Chief Signal Officer, to know the true nature of the project.

3. It is requested that, with your concurrence, and that of the Chief Signal Officer, a War Department message substantially as attached be sent to the Commanding General, Mediterranean Theater of Operations.

WILLIAM W. QUINN,
Colonel, Infantry,
Director.